

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the United States is recognized as the global leader in aerospace safety, efficiency, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, the aerospace industry is an important contributor to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, the aerospace industry is dependent upon a skilled workforce to maintain its exemplary level of quality;

WHEREAS, women have been involved in aviation since its earliest days, including:

- E. Lillian Todd, who designed and built aircraft in 1906;
- Harriet Quimby who, in 1911, became the first woman to earn a pilot certificate and cross the English Channel;
- Helen Richey, who became the first woman pilot for a U.S. commercial airline in 1934;
- Astronaut Dr. Sally Ride who, in 1983, was the first American woman in space;
- Jeana Yeager who copiloted the first non-stop, non-refueled flight around the world in 1986;
- Astronaut Eileen Collins who became the first female Space Shuttle Pilot in 1997 and the first female Space Shuttle Commander in 1999; and

WHEREAS, during the last two decades, although the number of women involved in the aviation industry has steadily increased, only 16 percent of people working in the aircraft, spacecraft, and manufacturing industry are female; and

WHEREAS, increased participation in the aviation industry can be achieved through quality aerospace STEM curriculum, exposing girls to positive female role models, and encouraging aerospace based goals; and

WHEREAS, September 20-26, 2015, has been designated National Girls in Aviation Week calling on all Americans to recognize the importance of promoting women in aerospace by supporting aerospace education activities during that week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2015 as

GIRLS IN AVIATION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor